

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of retrieving information via a network, comprising:

initiating a phone call by entering a dialing sequence on a telephone, wherein the dialing sequence
5 includes at least a telephone number, to make a telephone connection;

responsive to determining that the phone call is a request for web-based information, determining the
web-based information requested and determining a network address associated with the
phone call;

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generating a network protocol request for the requested web-based information and sending the
request to a network server capable of retrieving the information;

delivering the retrieved information to the network address associated with the phone call.

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2. The method of claim 1, wherein determining the phone call is a request for web-based information
comprises detecting a sequence appended to the phone number.

3. The method of claim 2, wherein the sequence is appended to the phone number after the phone
20 connection is made.

4. The method of claim 2, further comprising, responsive to detecting the sequence, appending an IP
address associated with the telephone to the phone number.

25 5. The method of claim 4, wherein appending the IP address comprises determining an IP address of
a device associated with the telephone.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein initiating the phone call comprises initiating the phone call with
a landline telephone.

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7. The method of claim 6, wherein determining the network address associated with the phone call
comprises determining the IP address of a web-connected computer coupled to the telephone.

8. A telephone system, comprising

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an automated call handler configured to receive a telephone call and to determine if the telephone call

is a request for web-based information;

a web device to determine web-based information associated with the request and an IP address associated with the telephone call and to generate an HTTP request for the web-based
5 information;

a web server connected to the web device, the web server being configured to respond to receipt of the HTTP request by retrieving the requested web-based information and sending the retrieved information to the IP address associated with the telephone call.

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9. The system of claim 8, wherein the automated call handler is configured to determine if the telephone call is a request for web based information by detecting a specified sequence transmitted as part of the phone call.

15 10. The system of claim 9, wherein the specified sequence includes a web request sequence identifying the call as a request for web-based information.

11. The system of claim 10, wherein a telephone number of the automated call manager is associated with a plurality of web pages and further wherein at least a portion of the specified sequence identifies
20 one of the polarity of web pages as the requested web-based information.

12. The system of claim 11, wherein the specified sequence includes the IP address associated with the telephone call.

25 13. The system of claim 12, wherein the system includes a look up table (LUT) having at least one phone number and corresponding information indicative of the IP address of the user.

14. The system of claim 8, wherein the automated call handler is configured to process the phone call as a voice telephone call if the phone call lacks the specified sequence.

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15. A communication service, comprising

enabling a telephone to initiate a request for web-based information by dialing a dialing sequence having at least, a telephone number;

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enabling the telephone to determine an IP address of a web-connected device associated with the

telephone number; and

enabling a call handling system to respond to receipt of the telephone call by generating an HTTP request for the web-based information and sending the request to a web server containing the web-based information.

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16. The service of claim 15, wherein the telephone comprises a landline telephone and wherein the web-connected device is a web-connected computer to which the telephone is connected.

10 17. The service of claim 15, wherein the telephone comprises a web-enabled cell phone and further wherein the IP address comprises the IP address of the cell phone on the network.

18. The service of claim 15, wherein enabling the call handling system to respond to telephone call includes enabling the call handling system to recognize a predetermined sequence appended to the phone call or entered after the phone call is made.

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19. The service of claim 18 wherein the predetermined sequence includes an IP address associated with the telephone or with a computer connected to the telephone.

20 20. The service of claim 19, further comprising means for appending the IP address to the phone call.